AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Claim 1-43 (Cancelled).

Claim 44 (Currently amended): A method for the treatment of a viral infection in a subject, comprising administering to a subject in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of at least one pharmacologically acceptable <u>phosphorothioated</u> oligonucleotide formulation comprising SEQ ID NO: 22 having an antiviral activity, said viral infection being caused by a virus selected from the group consisting of HCV, HBV, Influenza A, RSV, HSV-1, HSV-2, Ebola and CMV, wherein said antiviral activity of said oligonucleotide occurs principally by a sequence independent mode of action.

Claim 45 (Currently amended): A method for the treatment of a viral infection in a subject, comprising administering to a subject in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of at least one pharmacologically acceptable <u>phosphorothioated</u> oligonucleotide formulation comprising SEQ ID NO: 24 having an antiviral activity, said viral infection being caused by a virus selected from the group consisting of HCV, HBV and HSV-1,, wherein said antiviral activity of said oligonucleotide occurs principally by a sequence independent mode of action.